



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2008

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***** MEDIA ADVISORY *****

VOLUNTEERS TO BE RECOGNIZED BY STATE BOARD
Governor Kaine to Give Keynote Address

Richmond, VA – On April 1, 2008, the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (MHMRSAS) Board will hold its annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon to honor volunteers across the Commonwealth. Governor Timothy M. Kaine will be the keynote speaker. Media is invited to attend the event:

Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 12:30 p.m.
Richmond Crowne Plaza West
6531 West Broad Street
Salons I & II

Following the Governor's address, MHMRSAS Board Chair Victoria Cochran will present awards to volunteers along with Governor Kaine and DMHMRSAS Commissioner James Reinhard.

The MHMRSAS Board and DMHMRSAS, annually recognizes outstanding volunteers across Virginia whose efforts enhance the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness, intellectual disabilities or substance use disorders. In early February, a request for nominations was sent to each of the Commonwealth's community services boards, volunteer coordinators, and state-run psychiatric hospitals and mental retardation training centers. Each entity could send in up to three nominations.

The State MHMRSAS Board is a policy-making body comprised of nine citizens from across the Commonwealth. The Board has the statutory authority for the establishment of policy for DMHMRSAS, for the state-run mental health hospitals and mental retardation training centers, and for Virginia's 40 community services boards. Members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly. For more information on the State MHMRSAS Board, please visit:

<http://www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov/adm-StateBoardDefault.htm>.

Media planning to attend the event should contact Meghan McGuire at (804) 786-9048 or meghan.mcguire@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov.

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Virginia's public mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services system is comprised of 16 state facilities and 40 community services boards (CSBs) that serve children and adults who have or who are at risk of mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, mental retardation, or substance use disorders.